

THE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF WINFIELD

A Thesis

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by

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### Prefatory Note

Wherever there is a group of people there is also an interesting problem. The natural environment for the individual is in the group. There are no Robinson Crusoes except in the mind of an occasional novelist. Through the interaction of mind with mind in the group there is an evolution of the group mind. Each individual is stimulated by other individuals and responds accordingly. But the response does not end the process because through it come other stimuli and again still other responses. That is, the beginning of the process cannot be said to begin here and end there. It is a never ending spiral of development, each individual mind reacting to a certain stimulus according to the experiences which have gone before.

Thus it will be seen that a town late in its beginning commences at the point of development reached by the settlers before they arrive to start the new town. Schools are necessary to any group, but the pioneers do not have to learn this by a long period of experience. They know it because schools have been found a necessity in other parts of the country.

In Winfield diverse types were brought together from a large number of places. Immediately began an interaction of these unlike elements which

which made for progress the story of which comes later.

Not always in this thesis has the sociological aspect of a certain phase of development been emphasized. In a good many cases it has been left to speak for itself. Nor does our study pretend to be an exhaustive one. A few men influential in the history of the town have been mentioned. To make a thoroughly complete history it would have to be told what every man in the group contributed to the development of the group mind. The most nearly dissociated individual has had some influence. An adequate history, then, would take up every individual and show what he has contributed. This is manifestly impossible. It has been our purpose in this study to show the chief causes underlying some of the principal matters of historical concern.

In the work the writer has been greatly aided and inspired by Professor V.E. Helleberg under whose guiding hand the task has been undertaken and accomplished. Gratitude is extended Mr. E.C. Manning who gave time and effort in making complete the early history. Others to whom acknowledgements are gratefully made are: Mr. W.P. Hackney, Mr. J.P. Short, Mr. W.C. Robinson, Supt. J.L. Gowans of the city schools, Professor R.B. Dunlevy of Southwestern College, and Mr. E.P. Greer,



all of whom have rendered aid in carrying on the study, and finally to Miss Rena Wilson of Winfield and Roland J. Clark of St. Joseph, Missouri for invaluable help in the final preparation of the work.

## CHAPTER I

### The Place, Its Situation and Environment

Winfield is the county seat of Cowley county, Kansas, and the United States Census report of 1910 gives the number of people living in the city as 6,700. The county became a unit in March 1867 when the legislature at Topeka declared the east line of the county to be 105 miles from the east line of the state. From this point the county extends thirty-four miles west and from the southern border of the state, (which also makes the south line of the county), it extends thirty-three miles north. It contains 1,144 square miles. Through the southwest corner of the county the Arkansas river flows. As shown by plate I the Walnut river flows the entire length of the county from north to south, emptying into the Arkansas river a few below Arkansas City. On the former stream midway between the north and south lines of the county Winfield is situated. It lies on the east bank of the river. The mouth of Timber creek is also found here. The east bank of the Walnut slopes gently, this feature forming one of the chief natural assets of the town, mainly for drainage purposes, but the general beauty of the place is also enhanced by the lay of the land.

An unlimited supply of pure water is to be found at a depth of from twenty to thirty feet. Without this Winfield never would have been a town. Today this is an unimportant matter to the citizens, for there are very few wells in the town, but it was a happy moment in the lives of a few early settlers when they discovered plenty of pure water. The Walnut valley is fortunate in this respect. A special report of the state geologist has this to say, "Due to the peculiar westward slope of the limestone with a thin soil covering over it, the Walnut is supplied with many seeps and springs throughout its entire course, so that it has pools of water in dry times to a very considerable degree. The valley therefore is well watered and capable of supplying all demands that may be made upon it".

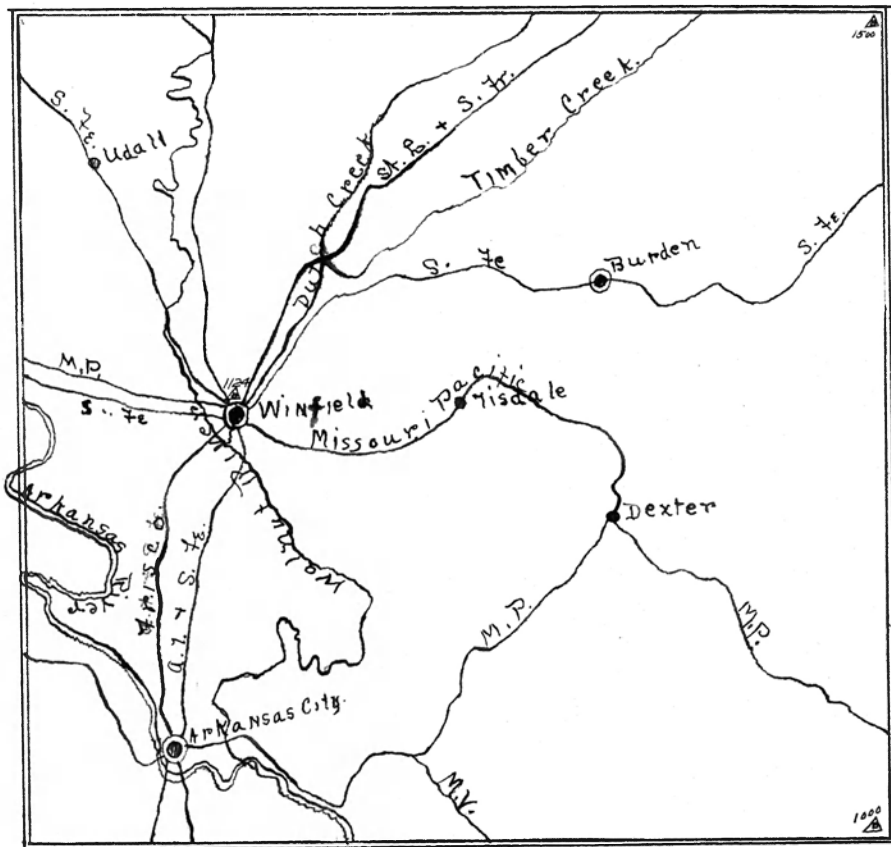
Bluffs practically surround the town. Truncated mounds so uniform as to appear artificial form the eastern border. There were trees along Timber creek on the north and along the Walnut river on the west and south, thus the two -- trees and bluffs -- forming a natural means of protection from the winter winds.

The limestone found in the county is especially

valuable for building purposes and the United States Geological Survey for 1912 gives the number of quarries in the county as five, four of these being at Winfield. Recently also some important oil and gas discoveries have been made in the county. There is much drilling and investigation being done at the present time, and the outlook is bright with prospects for important oil and gas fields to be discovered.

The soil of the county is varied, probably most of it being what a number of soil surveyors of the state have called Arkansas loam. At Winfield, except for a few rocky hills, the soil is a rich, dark loam. Analyses of it made by the Department of Chemistry of Southwestern College have found it to be rich in lime, probably better suited to the cultivation of alfalfa than any other crop, although corn, wheat, caffir, feterita, and oats are important farm products. The soil is somewhat deficient in phosphorous and nitrogen, but the proper crops are restoring these elements. The early settlers in the county realized that the soil was fertile and it was another big factor in the settlement and development of the county. Says Colonel E.C. Manning, whose part in the history of the county will be brought out fully later, in his autobiography, "I had, never seen so charming and inviting a country.

# PLATE I



Cowley County

It bore no scars of civilization. I was overwhelmed with the prospects. I seemed entering upon a new world. Springs of pure water in abundance, beautiful streams, immense stretches of fine timber, and a wonderful growth of grass everywhere upon the broad bottom lands gently sloping to the adjacent highlands and plenty of rosin weeds everywhere, a sure indication of rich soil. I then and there resolved that somewhere in that beautiful valley I should find a home."

Different parts of the county vary in altitude, the lowest point being in the southeast corner which is one thousand feet above sea level. The highest point is at the northeast corner of the county near the edge of the Flint hills where the altitude is 1500 feet. The altitude at Winfield is 1124 feet.

Winfield is surrounded by other towns, all in the immediate vicinity being much smaller with the exception of Arkansas City which lies fourteen miles to the south with a population of 7,508, (1910 Census Report). The small towns in the county are shown in plate I. Wellington with a population of 7,034 (1910 Census Report), being the county seat of Sumner county, *is twenty miles west.* <sup>^</sup>Wichita, the second city of the state in size, is forty miles distant. This, in brief, is the situation and

environment of the town which is to be the subject of our study.

PART I

THE FORMATIVE PERIOD 1870 -- 1879



## CHAPTER II

### EARLY HISTORY

The real history of Cowley county has its beginning in 1870 when on February 28 the county was organized and Winfield was named as the temporary county seat. At this time there were approximately seven hundred people in the county. The first settler was N.J. Thompson, who thought he was building his house in the south part of Butler county in August 1868, but it was afterward found to be in Cowley. Soon after, two men settled south of the Thompson location, but the exact date is not known. As early as 1868 men from the north were going into the county and buying cattle from the Texas cattle dealers who were pasturing their herds in the county travelling slowly north as the grass became green in the spring, Abilene, Kansas being the nearest shipping point and their destination. These buyers carried back with them stories of the fertility of the soil of the beautiful Walnut valley. Large numbers of settlers were attracted to the county even though they were trespassing on Indian land. The settlements were made along the Walnut valley and as

early as June 1869 Colonel E.C. Manning and P.Y. Becker erected a log cabin for the latter east and a little south of where Winfield now stands. In the same month Mr. Manning laid claim to a part of the land which afterward was laid out as the Winfield town site. In October of the same year, Mr. Manning built a log house on his claim in which a stock of goods was kept for trade with the settlers and Indians.

These early settlers had a great deal of trouble with the red men, and in August of 1869 the whites were all ordered out of the county. There was a stampede to Butler, only one white man remaining in Cowley. But those who had left soon returned and made peace with the Indians by paying a tax of something like six dollars each to Chief Chetopa of the Osages. The payment of this small sum allowed them to stake out claims of 160 acres each. A claim notice given by practically all the histories written in the earlier times is exaggerated and it probably was manufactured by a historian, but it nevertheless shows something of the spirit of the early pioneer days:

" Noatiss

This klame was took my me Orgust 9 1869 I am goan for my fokes. If anybody dairs to squat on this

clame while ime goan he will git a lode of buck-shot.  
Plenty of klames further south.

John Smith."

On July 15 of 1870 by an act of Congress the Osage Indian reserve was opened to settlement. The country was known far and wide throughout and beyond the state. Consequently homeseekers came at a rapid rate. The central figure at least in the north part of the county was E.C. Manning. We must now go back in our story to tell something of his life. Probably no other figure has wielded the influence in the formation and growth periods of Winfield as has Mr. Manning.

E.C. Manning was born in the state of New York in 1838. His father soon moved to Iowa where the son received a good academic education. He taught school two years at the early age of seventeen and eighteen, but was not entirely satisfied with the teaching profession so he learned the printing business. In 1859 he made a trip to Pike's Peak in search of gold, but before the trip was finished a state of almost destitution overtook him, he having nothing left but his wagon and oxen. He returned to Marysville, Kansas where he joined a triangular partnership and began the publication of a newspaper called the "Democratic Platform". Manning, after a short time, bought the interest

of the other men associated with him and secured a new lease from Frank Marshall who had been the territorial and pro-slavery candidate for governor. Under his (Manning's) management the Republican flag was soon floating in and about the office to the great disgust of Marshall. It was the first Republican paper published in the north part of the state west of Doniphan county and, being surrounded by slavery men most of whom had come to the state with Colonel Buford, caused quite a sensation. The paper was published only a few months, a tornado demolishing the office and equipment July 31 1860.

Mr. Manning served in the Civil War in the second Kansas Cavalry and was elevated to the rank of lieutenant. After the war he again went to Marysville for a short time, then to Manhattan where he established and published for two years the "Kansas Radical". His health was the cause of his leaving the paper, and outdoor life became necessary. In 1869 he explored the Walnut valley riding horseback south of Douglass, then the outpost of civilization. He found P.Y. Becker and together they worked for the further settlement and development of the country. Mr. Manning has been a factor in practically the whole history of Winfield, his home at this time being in the city. Further facts

in regard to his life will be told in connection with the story of the development of the country.

Late in December of 1870 a small company of men from Emporia came down the valley with the intention of locating a town at the junction of the Walnut and Arkansas rivers. The imperfect maps of the time showed this junction to be near the center of the county. The men adhered to their original plan, going to the south part of the county where the rivers meet to locate the city. They had already formed a town company and after a discussion of other names, it was decided that their town should be called "Cresswell". A square mile was laid out as the town site.

Before he left Manhattan, Mr. Manning had become acquainted with A.A. Jackson, a man whose early life had been unfortunate. When this man knew that Mr. Manning was going to enter the new territory, he begged for the opportunity of accompanying him and as he said "get a new start in life". He became the salesman in the store owned by Mr. Manning and took the claim joining that of the latter on the east. When travellers or home seekers were in the neighborhood, Jackson felt it his duty to reveal the glories of the country, but often hindered rather than helped further settlement by his over enthusiasm.

In July of 1870 two men travelling together through the Osage Indian reserve in search of a home passed by Mr. Manning's store and through what there was then of Winfield. Mr. Manning himself talked to them and learned their intentions. In an interview he declared, "I saw at once they were more than ordinary frontiersmen". He drove with them over a great deal of the country lying around Winfield. They liked the country and talked encouragingly. The two were J. C. Fuller and D.A. Millington, and their intimate connection with the history of the town will be brought out later. Mr. Manning told Mr. Fuller he thought that Jackson's claim could be bought for one thousand dollars if he (Manning) was allowed to make the deal. Whereupon Mr. Fuller took from his pocket a roll of greenbacks and, although they had been strangers a few hours before, counted out ten one hundred dollar bills and gave them to Mr. Manning. The former and Mr. Millington were to leave the country for a few days until the deal with Jackson could be closed. Up to this time matter had for Mr. Manning a decidedly discouraging aspect. But also had they for Jackson. It was the latter's avowed intention to get a thousand dollars with which to start in life. Mr. Manning knew, however, that if any encouragement were given him he

would hold tenaciously onto his claim. When Mr. Manning returned from his trip with the two travellers, Jackson was anxious to know the result. Mr. Manning revealed more discouragement and declared himself ready to sell his land whenever a buyer could be found. Jackson declared himself to feel the same way. Manning said he intended taking a trip to Augusta and possibly a buyer could be found for both their claims. When he returned from his trip he had for Jackson the glad news that a buyer was found who would give him the thousand dollars he had declared he would take. Jackson was glad of the opportunity to sell, but very likely would not have been had he known that the purchaser was not found at Augusta, but was none other than J.C. Fuller. After several days Fuller and Millington returned to find the deal completed. As the intimate history of Winfield shows, these three men, Manning, Millington and Fuller, have been largely responsible for the line of development Winfield has taken. An undesirable citizen had been eliminated; two desirable ones had been acquired.

These three men laid out a larger town site. In an interview with Mr. E.P. Greer, editor of the Daily Courier and himself one of the very influential men of the town, said to the writer, "These men worked

together as one machine. The elements lacking in one were abundant in the others. Each was distinctive in character." Mr. Manning was the politician and practical man; Mr. Millington was a writer and speaker and did the surveying for the new town site; Mr. Fuller was an exceptionally business man, he being the founder of the bank which for a number of years was known as Fuller's Bank, now the Winfield National. These men saw with peculiar insight the future of southern Kansas and Cowley county. Visions of the future and faith in the country on the part of the three men who have guided her development to a very marked degree were essentials to at least the early history of Winfield. Writing a sketch of Mr. Fuller after his death which occurred in February 1901, Mr. Manning has this to say, "All topical subjects as they arose in the developing years concerning the town, city, county, state and nation were discussed by the triumvirate. Mr. Fuller's habit of thorough investigation usually made him last to render a decision. And in case there were any expenditures of money involved his decision controlled for he was the only one who had any money. Those who knew him best esteemed him most. He was an honorable and pure man."

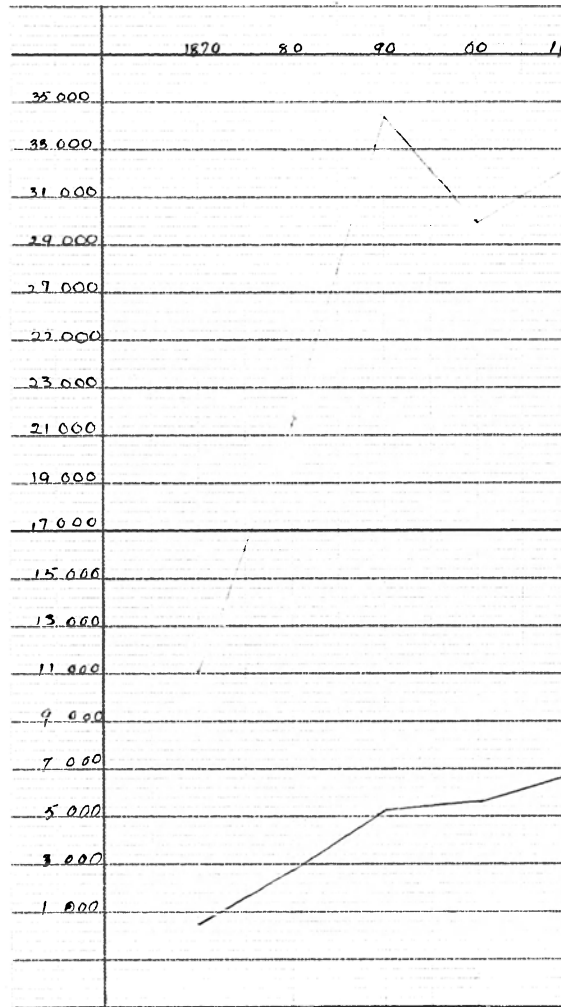
For a number of years these men were in con-



trol of the town site and their method of offering inducements to settle in the town was to make a free deed of the lot upon which the house was to be built, and the lot adjoining it was sold to the builder at current value. But the occupants of the town site believed that more land should be given them. Their argument was that the town company had no more right to the lots than anyone else. These demands became quite numerous and the conflict that arose has since been called the "famous Winfield town site controversy". A number of cases were carried to the supreme court of the state, and in each case the claims of the original owners of the site were upheld. These were the first internal conflicts of note in Winfield, although the usual claim contests called for some adjustment. There was only one contest of note of this sort and that when James Land "jumped" the claim of Mr. Manning. A meeting of the settlers of the county was called, both sides agreeing to abide by a majority vote of those present. The result was in favor of Mr. Manning.

Elections were the cause of a number of early conflicts. Often there was a candidate representing Winfield and one representing Arkansas City for the legislature. One of the most notable and the earliest of these conflicts was during the election of 1870

# CHART I



Graph showing the population  
of city and county according  
to U.S. Census reports.

Winfield ———  
Cowley County. ———

when the nominee for representative in the state legislature from Arkansas City was H.B. Norton and the Winfield nominee was E.C. Manning. The election returns were canvassed by the county commissioners. They threw out the votes of three precincts because it was not stated on the ballot in what precinct the vote was cast. Mr. Manning was declared elected by 203 to 150. One of the commissioners dissented from the decision of the other two, he declaring that the votes of the three precincts were legal and had they been counted, Mr. Norton would have been elected. The election was contested, but the contest court finally upheld the commissioners. Norton did not contest in the house of representatives. The election, however, caused a bitter feeling between the two towns which was not alleviated for a number of years.

The most notorious conflicts of the early history of the county, however, were those which determined the location of the county seat. Early in 1870, Mr. Manning being then a reader of the Topeka Daily Commonwealth, noticed that a bill was before the legislature which would make a temporary organization of the county and the story ran that the county seat was to be located at Arkansas City. He immediately dispatched three men, set them out on horseback to canvass

the county, secure six hundred names (which were enough to make a permanent organization of the county), and directed them to meet him at Douglass, the nearest place at which an affidavit as to the population could be sworn to. The men did their work and were at Douglass on schedule time. Mr. Manning immediately set out for Topeka with the papers, taking the stage to Emporia and the train from there to the capitol city. He at once laid his claim before the governor who was a personal friend. The bill had passed the Senate, but Mr. Manning procured its defeat in the House, and the county was declared organized with Winfield as the temporary county seat. An election was to be held in ninety days to permanently locate the seat of the county government.

Then it was that Winfield began preparations for the election. It was the idea of Mr. Manning that if there were a building which Winfield could offer the county as a place where the officers of the latter could meet, it would have much weight in determining a large number of votes. Immediately a plan for a log building was formed. The history of this building is significant for reasons that will appear later. We shall therefore give the story of it in full.

Work was begun on the building right after the order of temporary organization. The settlers donated

the logs and gave their time to the erection of the exterior of the two story building. Four men did a large part of the work, each building a corner, the corners being carefully and neatly dovetailed. It was a contest among them as to which should have the best corner. After the building was done which was in time to hold the election in it, there was a house warming when all the settlers came together for an old fashioned social time. The finished lumber which was necessary for the building was hauled from Emporia, Mr. Manning furnishing the money for this. The building was afterward used as a store and it will be known in history as the "Old Log Store". It was built with the understanding that the upper story be used as a court house until the county was able to build a structure of its own. It was used for school purposes, the first school in the county being held in it. It was also used as a place for public worship and social gatherings were frequently held in it. It was indeed a community building. It was moved from its original location in 1877 and in 1880 it burned.

The election determined Winfield as the county seat, but the people of Arkansas City were still not satisfied. The county seat for their own town was given up because they were in the southwest corner of

the county, but some of them formed a town company which laid out a town site about the geographical center of the county. It has been charged that though it was impossible for Arkansas City to be the seat of the county government, her citizens wanted it to be located as far from Winfield as possible. Petitions asking for the relocation of the county seat were successful and an election was called for August 22 1871.

There was a lively time in the county during the weeks preceding the election and the vote stood 721 for Winfield and 523 for Tisdale, the name given the new town site. Illegal votes were charged with some ground, but it was also clear that a majority of the legal voters were in favor of Winfield and the matter was dropped. Tisdale was more nearly a real town then than it is today. This is typical of a number of places which made desperate efforts to become towns. Writing of this matter in a study of McPherson, Kansas, Walter Thompson says, "This shows the importance of political prestige to a country town. Nearly every county in central Kansas has one, and only one, first class town". Cowley county is exceptional, but it is hoped that the development of the two -- Winfield and Arkansas City, in the same county will become clear later.

Winfield grew rapidly in numbers until 1874

when there was a decrease in population owing to the grasshopper invasion. Again in 1880 there was a decrease in which year as table I shows the population was 2,844. It became a city of the second class in 1879.

TABLE I

Showing the comparative population figures for Winfield and Cowley county by ten year periods according to the U.S. Census reports.

	1870	1880	1890	1900	1910
Winfield	: *472 :	2,844 :	5,184 :	5,554:	6,700 :
Cowley county	: 1,175 :	21,558 :	34,478 :	30,156:	31,990 :

\*Figure is for Winfield township, there being but a small number of people in the town at the time when the census was taken.

## CHAPTER III

PURITY OF THE STOCK

It has often been declared that the settlers of Cowley county were among the choice of the earth. In his autobiography Mr. Manning says, "The settlers of Winfield and the county at large were an exceptionally intelligent and energetic class of people. Nearly every state in the Union was represented in its makeup and several foreign countries, but a large proportion of the new comers had a strain of New England blood in their veins -- that home of thrift and economy where they used to 'cross their bees with lightening bugs so they could see to work by night'." Evidence of the sort of stock will be apparent as the development of the community is studied. For our present purpose, however, figures taken from the United States Census report are illuminating. Thus from the report of 1870 we have the following: Total population of the county, 1,175. Of these 1,094 were native Americans, eighty-one having been born on foreign soil. More striking still is the fact that there were only 107 having one or both parents of foreign birth. Of the 1,094 natives only 138 were born within the state. Those claiming Ohio as their native state numbered 111; Illinois, 153;



Indiana, 159; Missouri, 52; Pennsylvania, 74; Of the eighty-one of foreign birth, twenty-three were born in British America, fifteen in England and Wales, seven in Ireland, six in Scotland, twenty in Germany, two in France, six in Norway and Sweden and one in each Denmark and Switzerland.

The same report shows the population of Winfield township to be 472, and of this number 439 were natives, thirty-three foreign. There were no Negroes in the township.

In September 1875 the Winfield Courier printed some interesting figures. The county at that time had a population of approximately nine thousand people. Of these 8,550 were born in the United States; in Germany, 91; in Ireland, 59; in England and Wales, 75; in Scotland, 20; in Sweden, Norway and Denmark, 22; in France, 8; in British America, 119; and in countries not specifically stated, 5. There were 4,839 males and 4,124 females and 8,607 of these were born in Kansas. Table II shows the states from the people came and the respective numbers.

TABLE II

Showing the states from which people came to Cowley county and the respective numbers. Taken from an issue of the Winfield Courier for September 1875.

Alabama-----9	New Jersey-----13
Arkansas-----57	New York-----83
California----18	North Carolina----25
Connecticut---14	Oregon-----3
Colorado-----7	Ohio-----492
Georgia-----5	Pennsylvania----125
Illinois----1891	Rhode Island-----2
Indiana-----911	Tennessee-----69
Iowa-----1150	Texas-----50
Kentucky-----353	Vermont-----2
Louisiana-----4	Virginia-----38
Maine-----38	West Virginia----17
Maryland-----6	Wisconsin-----191
Massachusetts-18	Dist. of Columbia and territories25
Michigan----142	New Hampshire-----3
Minnesota----89	Nevada-----10
Mississippi---11	Nebraska-----55
Missouri-----	-----1309

## CHAPTER IV

### ECONOMIC BEGINNINGS

In the previous chapters it has been our purpose, first, to give the basis for our study and a few of the reasons for settlement in Cowley county. In the second place, a short early history of the settlements and a brief outline of the early period of development has been given. It is our purpose in the present chapter and those which follow in this division to follow these early lines of development into their economic, cultural and social phases.

There must be an economic basis for all settlement. Even the Pilgrim fathers had they not found a soil to sustain them must all have perished. In the case of Cowley county settlers were attracted by the rich soil of the fertile valley.

The first economic activity carried on in the county was small scale farming or it might more properly be termed gardening. Mr. Manning planted wheat on his forty acre tract in the fall of 1870, the first crop of the kind to be planted in the southern part of the state. As settlers came economic activity was increased greatly. In 1871 Dr. W.G. Graham put into operation on Timber creek north of Winfield a saw mill and it was no longer necessary for the settlers to

build log houses. Dr. Graham was also the first physician in the county, but there was not yet enough need for a doctor to demand all his time so he divided his attention between the practice of medicine and his saw mill. He had been a resident of Winfield continuously until January of the present year when his death occurred in the city.

Among the first business houses in Winfield were a blacksmith shop opened late in 1870 by Max Shoed and a drug store opened about the same time by W.Z. Mansfield. These two places of business along with the grocery store owned by Mr. Manning made up the business houses of Winfield for a short time. These industries reveal in a peculiar way the needs of pioneers.

The first newspaper published in the county was the Cowley County Censor, the first number of which appeared August 27 1870. Two numbers had previously been printed at Augusta. The paper found it difficult to maintain itself so early in the development of the country and it lived only seventeen months. The Winfield Messenger was established in January of 1872 on the remains of the old Censor, but it also lived only a short time. These two papers were printed on the first press that was brought into the Kansas

territory. It was known as the Meeker press because Jotham Meeker brought it to the state with him in 1834 when he came as a missionary to the Ottawa Indians. In 1857 it became the property of S.S. Prouty of Baldwin, who used it in the publication of the Freeman's Champion and the Neosho Valley Register. In an issue of the Champion of August 1857 this appears, "The press upon which the Champion is printed was brought into the territory by Rev. J. Meeker nearly twenty years ago, and was used by him to print books and tracts in the Ottawa language. It undoubtedly is the first press that ever migrated west of Missouri." The press was afterward used at Lecompton and Cottonwood Falls, then it was taken to Cowley county. At present it is not definitely known where the press is. There has been some action, but unsuccessful, to place it among the historical archives of the state. It was a Seth-Adams manufacture being oval at the top. There were twenty stars on it indicating that at the time it was made there were twenty states in the Union. The twenty-first state was admitted in 1818.

The first issue of the Winfield Courier appeared on the first day of January 1873. In November 1875 E.C. Manning became the editor of the paper and he con-

tinued as its guiding power until August of 1877 when D.A. Millington bought the paper and became editor. In 1880 near the end of our present period of study, E.P. Greer became associated with the paper and it has since been published under his editorial management.

From these economic beginnings Winfield developed. In January of 1873 the first issue of the Courier carried the advertisements of three hotels, four general merchandise stores, two furniture stores, two hardware stores, two drug stores, one millinery store, one livery stable, one restaurant, cards of four attorneys, two painters, one jeweler, one cobbler and two physicians. Table III shows something of the comparison of the industries carried on in the years 1873 and 1914.

In this list of enterprises the two banks which were doing business at the time are not mentioned. The first of these was established in January 1871 by J.C. Fuller. The bank which is now the First National Bank of Winfield was opened September 21 1872. Before this time life in the little town had been homogeneous in character. If there was a center of activity it was Fuller's bank. But now comes a competitor of this leading industrial institution. The inevitable result is a more heterogeneous life in the community.

In many towns two competing physicians are the center of organization for two rival factions. In other towns the newspapers take the leading places. In Winfield the banks were the principal characters. The important matter is that the group divides within itself. There are too many people for the simple life which had before obtained.

TABLE III

## Business and Industry in Winfield

	1873	1880	Present Time
Hotels and boarding houses-----	3	5	12
General merchandise stores-----	4	10	0
Department stores-----	0	1	4
Drug stores-----	2	3	8
Restaurants-----	1	4	9
Candy and ice cream stores-----	0	0	5
Millinery stores-----	1	2	5
Hardware stores-----	2	4	6
Furniture stores-----	2	2	3
Second hand stores-----	0	1	4
Attorneys cards-----	4	15	*
Painters-----	2	5	*
Jewelery and Music stores-----	1	1	5
Cobblers-----	1	2	4
Physicians-----	2	9	*
Livery stables-----	1	2	3
Dentists-----	0	1	9
Music teachers-----	0	2	*
Meat markets-----	0	2	10
Carriage factory-----	0	0	1
Taylor shops-----	0	1	4
Lumber yards-----	0	1	4
Plumbers-----	0	1	*
Bakeries-----			5
Implement stores-----	0	1	3
Harness shops-----			3
Electric Shop-----			1
Bicycle shops-----			2
Picture shows-----			2
Open air theater-----			1
Grocery stores-----	#	#	12
Blacksmith shops-----	1	3	6
Loan and Abstract companies-----			8
Photographers-----		1	4
Laundries-----			4
Banks-----	2	3	5
Men's furnishings stores-----			5
Shining parlors-----			1
Barber shops-----	1	4	10
Pool halls-----			7
Spring water company-----			1
Ice cream and dairy companies---			1



TABLE III (continued)

	1873	1880	Present Time
Telephone exchanges-----			1
Garages-----			5
Dry goods and Ladies' Furnishings---			2
Art studios-----			1
Nurseries-----			2
Brook manufacturers-----			1
Architectural and building companies---			3
Milling companies-----			3 **
Packing and produce companies-----			2
Ice manufactory and cold storage company---			1
Petroleum (organized to drill for oil and gas with local men interested) ----			1
Marble works -----			2
Natural gas company (branch of Wichita company)--			1
Pop and bottling companies-----			1
Paving and contract companies-----			2
Dealers in hides, furs, metals etc. -----			1
Interurban company-----			1
Municipal water and light company-----			1
Colleges-----			3
Daily newspapers-----			2
Other printing companies-----			2

\* Exact figures not obtained

# In early periods were a part of the general merchandise stores

\*\* One of the three not at present in operation.

## CHAPTER V

## BEGINNINGS OF CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

Although as was pointed out in the last chapter, there must be an economic basis for all settlement, it is possible that the ideal of a people is not an economic one. So it is with the people of Winfield. In a personal letter to the writer, Mr. J.P. Short in answer to the direct question, "have economic, social, moral, or educational ideals been the dominant ones in the development of Winfield" says, "My reply is education. Beginning soon after the organization of the county when Winfield had but two families on the town site, with two or three more on claims adjoining, a school supported by subscription was opened in the old log store and continued through the summer. I doubt if there is another town in the state that could make a like showing. When two years old and but a village Winfield voted \$5,000 in bonds drawing ten per cent. interest and built what was for that time a large stone building." Says Mr. Manning in his autobiography, "As evidence of the import given to education, there were ninety-nine school districts and fifty-five school houses erected in the county as early as the summer of 1873".

Even allowing for what might be thought over statements on the part of these men on account of their enthusiasm for their own town, we must nevertheless come to the same conclusion reached by them. The history of education in Winfield will prove this point beyond a reasonable doubt.

The first school session was held in the summer of 1870. The building for which bonds were voted in 1872 was adequate for only a short time, it being supplemented by a wood structure. After this the ward buildings were built, Bryant and Webster being the first. Soon after this Central building was again enlarged and at the end of the period there were twenty-four school rooms in the city.

In 1879 there were 510 children in Winfield of school age. The enrollment was 385 and the average attendance was 230. These figures form an interesting item of comparison with those in table VI.

Churches also were established early in the town's history. The Methodist organization of Winfield is the oldest in the county, the date of its beginning being May 1870. Rev. B.C. Swarts brought about the organization with three members, one of these being a probationer. By September the membership had increased to ten, and it was decided to erect a building which

was accomplished by May 1871, one year from the date of the earliest organization. The Winfield town company gave the lot upon which the building was erected, and Dr. Graham, one of the first three members, donated the lumber. The rest of the material for the frame structure was furnished by the church, the labor also being done by the members. The first regular pastor was appointed in March 1871, Rev. J.C. Smith receiving the commission. In 1878 the Methodists built a limestone structure costing \$7,500, which was said to be at the time, "the most spacious and imposing structure in southern Kansas". It was declared to have a seating capacity of one thousand. The membership two years later than this was 283.

The Baptist organization of Winfield was effected in November of 1870 with eleven members. Rev. Winfield S. Scott, then pastor of the Baptist church at Leavenworth, Kansas, was present helping to perfect the organization. Winfield received its name honoring his christian name. He promised that if the town be given the name of Winfield, he would aid in securing the money with which to erect a Baptist church. The building was completed in the spring of 1872 and true to his promise, Rev. Scott aided in clearing it of debt. The church prospered and increased

rapidly in membership, in 1880 the number of communicants being 160.

As early as 1872 Presbyterian services were held in the town, the first organization being effected in January of 1873 with eighteen charter members. A church building was erected and dedicated in 1877, the same building having been used by the congregation until 1913. By 1880 the membership of this church had reached 225.

Services were held in the city by Christian (Disciple) ministers in 1871, and in September of 1872 the people of this faith organized themselves into a church society. A building was erected near where the Southern Kansas station is now. By 1880 the church had grown to approximately eighty members.

According to the best authority obtainable the first Episcopal organization in the town has its date in 1871 but the exact time could not be determined. A church building was not erected until 1888. The membership in 1880 was ten.

The exact date of the first organization of the Roman Catholic church in Winfield could not be ascertained nor the date when the first building was completed. The second and present church edifice was built in 1887. The membership during the early years could not be ascertained.

The total membership of the churches of the town in 1880 was approximately 950. The population at this time as will be noted in the tables was 2,844.

Another matter which seems to reveal the cultural ideals of a people was the beginning of tree culture in Winfield. Mr. Manning was several times elected to the state legislature, and on one of his trips to Topeka he noticed in the street gutter after a rain a large number of seeds of maple trees. He secured a small sack from a grocery store which he filled with the seeds. He planted them in a small field in Winfield and advised the people to get the saplings and plant them along the streets and in their yards. Mr. Millington took up the idea of many trees for the town and studied the question of city gardening and tree culture. He wrote and lectured on the subject and as a result Winfield "the forest city" is not a misnomer. At first there were trees only along the streams.

The beginnings of the development which Winfield has had along musical lines are also to be found in this early period. The issue of the Courier for January 11 1873 contains the announcement of the organization of the Silver Cornet Band "in spite of the absence of several old members." Weekly serenades were to be given. Later in the period are found notices

of the election of officers of the organization. Winfield also boasted of one of the best vocalists and voice teachers of the state, Mrs. Phoebe Roberts whose home is still in the city. Near the end of the period there is notice of the formation of an amateur dramatic association, and the Courier for January 23 1879 contains the announcement of the election of officers for the second year. Thus were the beginnings of Winfield's cultural activities.

TABLE IV

Showing the comparative figures of church membership and population of the town by ten year periods.

	1870	1880	1890	1900	1910	:
Population :						:
of town :	*472	2,844	5,184	5,554	6,700	:
:						:
Church :						:
Membership :	20	950	1,632	2,165	**3,280	:

\* Winfield township

\*\* The church membership figures are approximate since it was impossible to secure exact figures from three of the organizations.

## CHAPTER VI

EARLY SOCIAL LIFE IN WINFIELD

The social life of the during these first years of Winfield's history has been hinted at. The housewarming after the completion of the log store has been mentioned. Requested by one of the newspapers of the town to write the story of the first Christmas of Winfield, Mr. J.P. Short, one of the men who took part in the festivities of this first yule-tide celebration, reveals the life of the time. A part of his story is as follows:-

"The first Christmas in Winfield after the town appeared on the map, was in the year 1870. At that time the population was about 150, most of them were young men and unmarried; there were no old people and but few children. About a dozen buildings were on the main street with a few small houses further back and more were being built. Many people lived in wagons, tents and in dugouts on the river banks. Many of the store keepers lodged and many cooked their meals in the store buildings. Anything that had a roof was full of people."

"At those times more than a dozen men could



be found sleeping on the floor of the printing office of the town's first newspaper over the log store; while across the street in the town's first hotel, the Walnut Valley house, built and conducted by the writer, on stormy nights after the beds and floor were full of people, the surplus sleepers were hung on hooks -- so 'twas said."

"We had to furnish our own amusements, which consisted mostly of dancing. When a store room was completed it was generally dedicated with a dance, though often there was preaching in the same by some travelling preacher who might happen along, the congregation sitting on the planks among the shavings in the unfinished buildings. I recall the Rev. Winfield Scott, for whom this town was named, holding such services in the hotel building about the time of its completion."

"These dedication dances were very informal but enjoyable affairs. On a certain November day, when the floor of a small store room was neatly laid, the owner sent out word to the boys to get busy and hit the light fantastic toe that night in his building. Dark candles were sought with which to light the room. Kerosene was seventy-five cents per gallon and little used. It was found that the few stores were out of

candles and Douglass, the nearest town having them, was twenty miles away. Did they declare the dance off? They did not! These young pioneers were resourceful. Buffalo tallow was plenty, so a quantity was melted into tin basins strips of cotton cloth twisted into the melted tallow, and when hardened and lit they gave some light."

Christmas was approaching and it was decided to hold a dance in a building that was being completed on a part of what is now the Dauber block. Of the people who danced, Mr. Short has this to say, "Of these pioneers many came from graduation in eastern colleges, law and medical schools, but the majority were graduates of that then greatest of universities, 'the little red school house'--these days rather contemptuously looked down upon by many -- being therefore especially fitted to work and build up a new country. Then, there were no laid out roads and not a light vehicle in the town. People got around in farm wagons and on ponies. Most men owned a Texas or an Indian pony which cost from ten to twenty dollars. There were few young ladies in town and on Christmas afternoon many young men could be seen riding one pony and leading another with a side saddle, going out into the country to get a girl for the ball. \*\*\*\* The ladies did not wear puffs, rats or

decollette gowns. \*\*\* As was the custom all the men wore boots and paper collars and some wore whiskers. There being no elaborate toilets or complexions to make up all came early and long before eight o'clock came the call, 'salute your partner' and the dance was on."

"At these dances there were no wall flowers; girls were too scarce. They could pick and choose but never turned a man down. Apparently the young lawyer or graduate, the hands from Bartlow's saw mill, the boys from Baxter Springs cattle trail or from out on the claims all looked good to them. I have in mind a young lady, now a grandmother, who boasted of having danced with every man in the bunch and several times with many of them."

"Though these dances were held on the frontier and dancing is not supposed to be very elevating there was never any disorder. Red liquor was to be had, but there was none in evidence. It remained for these days of higher (?) civilization when men's idea of a good time is a keg party."

"Most of the men in town or on claims in the country, 'kept batch', did their own cooking -- which lacked a good deal of being like mother's --- and lived principally on buffalo meat, hog and hominy, with an occasional mess of string dried apples, or later on

became sorghum lappers."

"Among the pioneers there were no very nor no very poor. All were on a level and came here to better their condition, to get in on the ground floor and grow up with the country. In time many reached the top."

"People from New England, New York and Pennsylvania were much in evidence, though a great majority came from the states further west with a sprinkling from the south"

"Though most of the land was settled before being surveyed and later there was discord about lines and lands, it was all settled peacefully. Unlike the early settlement of Oklahoma, there were no hired affidavit makers, no shooting. As a whole they were a high grade people".

"But I see that I am wandering from my subject; like most old men I am inclined to get garrulous. Some readers may also add senile."

Thus we have quoted at length from the story of Mr. Short because he gives a complete and detailed picture of the early life of the community much better than is possible for one who has been ushered into the world of affairs some time since the pioneer days were past. Mr. Short in his story also unconsciously portrays the typical man of his day, and the alert reader

will hardly miss his rich insinuations.

A characteristic feature of the life of the time was the friendliness of the entire population. Everybody in the town and community was a friend and neighbor to everybody else. Probably the closer people lived, the more friendly they were and the more the families would intercommunicate. Practically all the social life of the time consisted of functions to which all were invited. The dances described at length prove this statement if there were no other examples. But there were several great Fourth of July celebrations in the early years. An issue of the Courier for January 11 1873 contains the following:—"Winfield celebrated the holidays in grand old style. The feast of pleasure for old and young was the result of a great amount of labor, could not be surpassed by country where society is so diversified as in Kansas, combining the eccentric manners and customs of every state, we are thrown together promiscuously, commingling though strangers to each other in manners".

But, as is revealed in the same issue of the paper, a differentiation is beginning to appear. The story is told of a party of amusement seekers who spent an evening in 'dancing, singing and general amusement'. The population is becoming too complex for the entire

number to meet in all the social functions. There came to be choice of associates and people were passing by their next door neighbor to find their best friends. No definite time can be set for this change. It came as it does everywhere as a gradual evolution. Different churches were beginning their organizations and although to some of their social all were invited, to others they were not. The Courier in its issue for June 10 1875 announces a joint ice cream and strawberry festival given by the ladies of the Presbyterian and Congregational churches. Lodges were instituted and held their regular meetings. The Masonic order of Winfield dates its beginning in the early part of 1872. Others were organized soon after. Thus is apparent the growth in differentiation and selection. The coming of a second and third banks has been noted. The growth of the schools and churches has been taken account of. It is all a part of the same evolution and development. More and more as the town grew, more and more small groups within the one larger group were formed until at the end of the period of which we write, even though the railroad had not yet made a city of the town, the pioneer period was past.

PART II

PERIOD OF GROWTH 1880 -- 1903

## CHAPTER I

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

In a book by Small and Vincent, "An Introduction to the Study of Sociology" when discussing pioneer life they give expression to the following:-

\*"Types of organization represent possibly centuries of growth, are at once transferred to the frontier. In a sense it is true that a western town begins at the point which an eastern town has reached." While this is obviously true in some respects it falls far short of revealing the real situation. The frontier must inevitably be an isolated place until modern methods of communication make it a part of the outside world. Advancement has come about through the contact of mind with mind and the intercommunication of human beings. It follows that within certain limits the greater the diversity of the human element, the greater and more rapid advance and development should there be. The frontier place is handicapped, then, to the extent that it is shut off from the contact of and communication with the world at large. The influence of the settlers within the town is of more importance since there is little or no outside influence. This fact allows

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the influence of an early settler who is a leader to be more vital for the entire history of the the town than would otherwise be possible. This accounts in a measure for the very great mark left upon Winfield by some of her early leaders.

Winfield's first railroad came in 1879. Bonds had been voted and the people of the town had tried for several years to induce some company to build a road to or through the city. To say that there was no communication with the outside world up to this time would be an exaggeration for the population of the town was increasing all the time through new settlers coming in. This was an important way of adding new and diverse elements. There were several stage lines and there was daily mail by coach from Wichita; daily mail by hack line from the railroad at Florence; tri-weekly mail from Wellington; and tri-weekly mail from Independence. Some of the settlers also made regular trips to the nearby towns, and an important matter in this connection is the fact that all salable products were hauled to Wichita. And yet a large proportion of the people never were in direct with persons outside the city limits. This is what makes the coming of the railroad an important matter. The first road was the Santa Fe which built its line from Wichita. Others soon fol-

lowed, the road that is now the Southern Kansas, a branch of the Santa Fe, was built through the county in 1880. The Frisco line came in 1885 and the Missouri Pacific in 1886. The El Dorado branch of the Santa Fe was completed in 1883.

These roads undoubtedly did a great deal to change the town, although it was a city of twenty-five hundred people before the first railway was constructed through it. Probably the greatest change which it brought about was the manner in which the crops of the county were handled. An issue of the Courier during the year 1879 says, "Any day a hundred or more teams and wagons loaded with wheat could be counted, passing over the road between here and Wichita". A large number of teamsters and drivers were put out of business with the coming of the railroad. The crops came to Winfield as the shipping point rather than going to Wichita. With the coming of each new road was opened an important new commercial territory, either a market for Winfield's products or furnishing important imports, or both.

The period is important for some other economic developments. A severe drought came in 1880 and the population of the county was less by two thousand than it was in 1879. But after 1882 there was gradual

and steady growth until 1886 when the boom spirit spread over the entire country and there was rapid growth in every direction. The boom period ended in 1889 and the population figures for 1890 shows 6,553, a decrease of exactly of 989 people in one year. (Figures from the state Agricultural report).

The period of depression did not last long as must necessarily be the case with a country capable of supporting a larger population than it possesses. The growth was rather slow, however, until 1894 when there came another period of depression and the figures show a decrease of from 6,115 to 5,031 and still further decreases in the two following years, 4,610 and 4,455 being the figures for 1896 and 1897 respectively. Then began a steady and rather rapid increase which lasted until the panic year of 1907. At the end of the present period the figures show that there were somewhat more than seven thousand people living in the city. (It is to be noted in this connection that the figures of the state Agricultural report and the U.S. Census report do not agree. It is a difficult matter to determine which are the more nearly accurate since there has been some complaint by Winfield citizens in regard to the methods of the U.S. enumerators.)

There were a number of industries added during

the period. The state agricultural report for 1882 lists the manufacturing interests of Winfield as follows:- "Carriage factory; capital, \$1000; product \$30,000: foundry, capital \$3000; product, \$2500: two furniture factories, capital \$4000; product \$6000: machine works, capital, \$3500; product \$35000 tannery, capital \$5000; no product reported. In these establishments 113 hands find employment, and a capital of \$151,500 is invested."

Economic growth during the period is evident. In 1882 a flouring mill was established where the Baden-Vilm Mill is now. In 1889 it was bought and remodeled by J.P. Baden, who made the plant into one of the most efficient in Kansas, the annual pay roll aggregating \$27,000 and the sum of \$445,000 was expended annually for grain.

On June 7 1886 a franchise was granted the Union Street Railway company and cars drawn by mules were soon in operation. These continued in operation until after the close of the present period. The enterprise united the town in a way it had not known before. It made for a more frequent meeting of a good many of the citizens, therefore greater development within the group was possible.

The event of most farreaching effect, however, came with the decision as to the location of the Santa

Fe shops in the southern part of the state. In this connection Colonel W.P. Hackney, one of Winfield's most prominent citizens and one of the very able attorneys of the state, comes to the foreground. He was the attorney for the Santa Fe, and it had been agreed that the division point for the road should be at Winfield, when their lines from the east, from the north and from the northwest should be completed. This alone if there were no other interests would make a town. When the road from Douglass was completed, the company purchased the level land in the bend of the west side of the river and \$115 per acre for the location of the shops. Later the directors of the road wanted to purchase land lying around Winfield for speculative purposes. But there was no land to be had. North, south, east, west or in the intermediate directions the land was either tied up in such a way as to make its sale impossible or it was owned by someone who would not sell even though much more than the actual value of the land was offered. The plan for speculation in land having failed the directors of the Santa Fe still agreed to carry out their understanding with Winfield if the city would turn over to them franchises for the city water, gas, electric lighting system and street railways. Mr. Hackney presented the

matter to the city council and urged to accept the offer of the company arguing that if their wishes were complied with a large city would be the inevitable result, while otherwise simply a town would be the probability. The members of the council agreed that this was so, but they thought there was little of the railroad company refusing to place the shops at Winfield even though the requests were not granted. Mr. Hackney in telling the story to the writer said:-"The first National Bank officials and their friends wanted the water works, the Winfield National Bank officials and their friends wanted the gas and electric light works, and the Farmers Bank and friends wanted the street railway and they said the land had been bought for the division point, and Mr. A.A. Robinson, vice-president and general manager of the road, was an honorable man, and he and his associates were just trying to get something for nothing and the town people were going to have it themselves. The result was that the Mayor and council refused me for them, the franchises for those things."

Winfield people soon received the news that the division points had been located at Wellington and Arkansas City. Then seven Winfield men, Mr. Hackney among them, made a trip to Boston, taking with them

five hundred dollars each in money and a draft each for ten thousand dollars. They met the Kansas directors of the road and others of influence and began bidding for the division point for Winfield. They finally offered \$300,000. The seven drafts they had with them for ten thousand dollars each were to be left as a forfeit, and the men agreed to come home and raise the balance of the \$300,000. The proposition was considered several days but was finally refused because as the directors said, "they had invested so much money themselves and had induced their friends to invest so much money at Arkansas City and Wellington that it might involve them in great litigation". Mr. Hackney concludes his story as follows: "Thus we lost the division points of the Santa Fe railroad and thus were we hoist on our own petard. While it did not do Arkansas City and Wellington as much good as was anticipated, yet if that original contract with the Santa Fe officials and myself had been carried out, Winfield today would be larger than Wichita, because at that time railroad influence was hostile to Wichita and friendly to us."

The three banks built the city improvements, taking the franchises that they wanted. Says Mr. Hackney in regard to this, "The First National Bank and its

friends built the water works and got out of it just in time to save its face. The Winfield National Bank officials built the gas and electric works and those who then controlled them went out of business. The Farmer's Bank officials and their friends built the street car line and they went out of business, and Winfield and her three bank and their friends nearly all went out of business."

This came in 1888, all of the franchises being disposed of to eastern financial firms. Appearances were kept up, however, until the next year. For instance this appeared in the Courier in 1888:- "The Winfield water company last evening completed the sale of its splendid water works plant to H.M. Payson and Company, bankers of Portland, Maine. These gentlemen are extensive investors all over the country and have had their eye on Winfield's water works for some time. They investigated and found the plant to be first class and a solid, paying investment. \*\*\*\*\* And thus is planted in Winfield a large amount of eastern capital; and thus is shown the confidence of capitalists in Winfield." As shown above, the crisis came in 1889, the population figures for 1890 showing a large decrease.

Throughout the period and up to the present



time there was economic growth as the needs of the population on account of its increasing numbers made, not only possible, but necessary. Stores were added and enlarged as the need arose. The nursery business was begun in Winfield during the period and it has had a steady growth. Real estate firms increased in number and activity. Department stores took the place of general merchandise stores. A popular news stand became a place for gossip among the men and a distributing point for the local and metropolitan newspapers. A book store was started early in the period, showing something of the importance of educational matters in the town.

## CHAPTER II

### SOCIAL AND CULTURAL

Important as has been the economic progress of the period of development of Winfield, the educational and cultural activities again seem to us to reveal the ideals of the people. The self satisfied attitude which virtually says, "The railroad will put its shops here even though we make no concessions", lost for the people of the town the opportunity of bringing to themselves a city. But so far as we have been able to determine no opportunity for educational or cultural development was even missed.

The public schools grew steadily and rapidly. The High School became a factor in this period, the enrollment in the year 1889 being approximately seventy-five. By 1900 the record gives the number of students in the secondary school as 180, although in 1903 there were only 155. The temporary decrease just preceding the close of our present period precedes the beginning of a period of remarkable growth.

Two exceptional opportunities offered themselves during the period. The first of these began to appear in 1883 when there was organized a Southwest Kansas Conference of the Methodist Church. The first

conference session was held in March 1883. Baker University had been founded since 1857. Soon the new conference of Methodists began to feel that a college of their own within the district could be supported and was necessary. In 1885 at the conference session there was appointed a board of trustees and a committee on location. A proposition for the location for the college was received from Winfield, Hutchinson, Wichita and one or two other towns. On account of the excellent location and liberality of the offer of the Winfield business men the Winfield proposition was accepted.

Winfield offered to give the church forty acres of land, donations of stone, lumber and other material for the buildings; twenty thousand dollars in cash and twenty thousand dollars in ten annual installments of two thousand each. Besides this, Winfield citizens gave \$26,000 of the \$100,000 endowment fund. In an interview Mr. W.C. Robinson, who was instrumental in bringing the college to Winfield, said to the writer, "We practically built what is now North Hall and turned it over to the church for a college". Other towns were not too friendly because of the location of the college at Winfield, and for a number of years there came no support from these places. This

made the matter of existence a difficult one during the early years. At one time all these connected with it except one man gave up. The furniture was being down town to be sold at auction. When Mr. Robinson learned of the affair he ordered that those who had hauled the furnishings down return with them. He assumed a part of the debt and made it possible for the work of the college to continue. Before the end of the period Southwestern College was an important factor in the life of the town. It had reached the enrollment of well over three hundred, most of the students coming to Winfield for work during nine months of the year.

In 1886 a charter was secured for the Winfield Chatauqua Assembly, an institution that was to wield a greater influence among all classes of the people of the town than any other. Says an article in the Winfield Courier in regard to the Assembly, "Among the institutions that our city has originated and fostered none has brought it into more favorable or given it a more enviable name among the cities of Kansas". The promoters were business men of the town who formed a stock company, the shares to sell for ten dollars each. It was necessary before there was a sound financial basis for each to pay a second time for the

amount of stock he had taken. A little later it was necessary for forty of the business men to sign notes for seventy-five dollars each. It finally, however, became a paying proposition. The first session was held in June 1887 and every summer since there has been a session of from eight to ten days in length. The attendance has grown steadily and more and more as time went by Winfield citizens showed a growing interest in the project. Many of the great figures in public life have visited Winfield through the office of the chatauqua. The Chatauqua Literary and Scientific Circle is an important part of the work of the assembly and one which has had great influence upon the people who enter the classes. It has been called "the college of the people of all ages". Through this department the chatauqua is not a ten-day-a-year affair. The classes usually meet once each week during the fall and winter months.

In the spring of 1894 was completed the building which is occupied by St. John's College. This building was erected at the instance of J.P. Baden, who furnished all the means for the building and its equipment. Mr. Baden was closely connected with affairs in Winfield for a number of years. Something of his connection with economic matters has been noted. The

Lutheran church in the city bears his name. His great monument, however, is St. John's College. Classes were held before the building was ready for occupancy, in 1893 there being two professors and twelve students. The institution has steadily grown until today the number of students is near the hundred mark. Luther- and from many parts of the country are in attendance.

The latest college organized in Winfield is the College of Music which had its beginning in 1899. Beginning with a small number of people in attendance, the school has gradually grown. In 1900 there was a graduating class of nine ladies and today the enrollment is near the four hundred mark. A very large percentage of the students are Winfield young men and women.

Another institution which has made for the cultural development of Winfield is what for a number of years was known as the Caman Military Band. Under the leadership of Professor W.H. Caman the band was organized in 1895 out of former parts of similar musical organizations. From the first the venture was a success, the members being business men who gave their spare time to the study of music. For a time Winfield boasted the best band in the west, and today the organization ranks high among the bands of the state.

## CHAPTER III

## DEVELOPMENT OF ASSOCIATION

In the preceding chapters it has been noted from time to time that there were associational groups of people. In pioneer life association is very essential to the welfare of the group. In such situations there is often exchange of work, the community living together much as if it were a big family. Thus within the first year the settlement of a contested claim was made by a meeting of the settlers of the community. Associational life in Winfield was also shown in the story of the building of the log store. It was noted also how at first this group was homogeneous and addition of other and more diverse elements was traced briefly.

Association and intercommunication within the group give to the town its distinctive character. Association through various means with the outside world made the town like other towns and the people reflect the type of the larger group rather than a type common only to the one town. Means and methods of local intercommunication and association have been casually and briefly noted. Says Professor Cooley in his book, *Social Organization*, "By communication

is meant the mechanism through which human relations exist and develop, including expression of the face, attitude and gesture, tones of the voice, printing, telegraphs and telephones." It is obvious, then, that any means by which people are brought together in a group are an aid to communication. Besides the socializing agencies mentioned above, some of the important ones in Winfield were the school, church, Sunday-school, lodge meetings, street cars which allowed more frequent visits among a certain class, especially the women, the colleges, their various organizations and social functions, musical organizations, city Y.M.C.A. whose building was completed in 1902, and business affairs which are carried on largely through contact with people -- customers, employes, wholesalers and competitors.

The story of the coming of the telephone is interesting in this connection. An exchange was installed in Winfield during the late months of 1901 with two hundred subscribers. By January 1903 there were 460. At this time also the first rural line was about to be completed, but there was such a demand for extension of the lines in Winfield that rural work was postponed. At first there was connection only



with Arkansas City and a few points in Oklahoma. But in June 1903 this appeared in the Courier, "The Winfield telephone company has telephone connections with Chataqua and Montgomery counties and immediate communication may be had with Coffeyville, Independence, Caney, Peru, Sedan, and all the small stations along the Missouri Pacific". The business has grown, at the present time a house without a telephone in Winfield is the exceptional one. The country also is bound together by a net work of telephone wires. The activities of the people have been greatly changed by the consciousness that distance communication is possible, and the telephone is one of the very important means of communication, not only within the town, but also with the world outside.

The political history of the community is also a story of association of men with men and an indirect contact with the outside world. The city has ordinarily been republican, but not always. City and county elections afford local communication and conflict both of which tend to develop the community feeling. National and state elections make the small town feel that it is a part of a larger whole and bring it in contact with matters of importance outside its own narrow confines. This function is one which belongs to political activity everywhere. Winfield is no exception

politics being the usual factor in the community.

Newspapers deserve special mention as socializing agencies since they do more than any other one factor, except the actual contact of the people, to develop the community feeling. In fact they often take the place of actual contact with other people. Newspapers weld together a community as no other influence can. The newspaper files of Winfield publications show that this their principal function was not understood by them in the early days. They have, however, become more and more awake to the fact and at present are filling their office better than any time in the past. A notable instance of how the sentiment of the town can be united by a newspaper is the fact that in 1880 when an amendment to the state constitution bringing about prohibition for the commonwealth was before the people, Mr. Millington, then editor of the Courier, advocated the proposed amendment with the result that Cowley gave a larger vote for prohibition according to the population than any other county of the state.

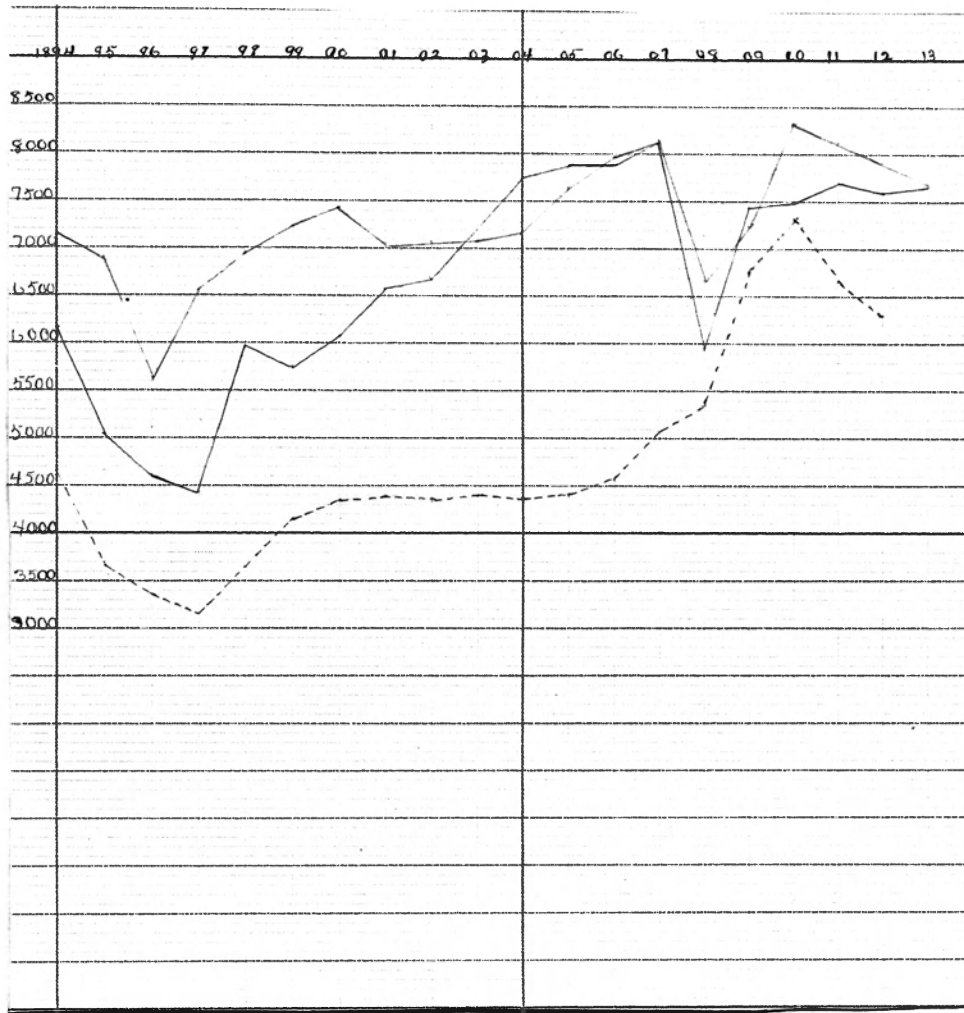
This same spirit was carried into the period when joint smashing became popular in Kansas. Probably a greater cause actions of the Winfield people at this time, however, was the knowledge of what was going on

at other places in Kansas. Carrie Nation was waging her bitter campaigns against the saloon. Winfield people were dissatisfied because there were joints in their town. The issue of the Weekly Industrial Free Press for February 13 1901 tells the story of the raid against one of the joints. "Winfield has caught the joint wrecking spirit," runs the story, "and the temperance folks declare they will never cease their work so long as a joint remains in Winfield". It tells of the hundred men and women who met at the Baptist church before the raid. "There were several ministers and a number of college students in the meeting. Some wanted to smash immediately; others wanted to give the jointists warning and a few days to close up. A compromise resulted in a raid on Schmidt's place on South Main as a lesson to others. There were guns and axes and hatchets and pieces of wagon tongues and baseball bats. A queer little army of fanatics, no doubt you will say. But let law breakers and constitution defiers beware of just such an army. It is the army of outraged public opinion. The smashers were wholly victorious. They smashed the doors and windows and then fell upon the contents of the building. They hardly left a piece of that joint big enough for a souvenir." Winfield citizens persisted until every joint was driven out of town.

Newspapers published outside the town also have been and are a great factor in the development of the feeling that the community is a part of a larger unit. Other important means of communication with the outside world are travellers in and out of the town, new settlers who bring with them ideas obtained elsewhere, telephone and telegraph, and communication by mail.

One of the interesting phases of the interaction between towns is shown by a brief comparative study of the three towns, Winfield, Wellington and Arkansas City. W.C. Robinson when asked if it was a good thing to have two towns, Winfield and Arkansas City in the county replied, "it is a good thing for the county, but there is some question as to whether it has been good for either town". After a little reflection he continued, "It probably has been well, not only for the county, but an incentive to greater efforts for growth on the part of each of the towns. For example, Wellington is the only town in Sumner county and it is as good a town as either of the ones in this county. The rivalry existing between Winfield and Arkansas City has been a factor in the development of each and without it neither of them would be what it is today. At the present time, since we are connected

## CHART II



Graphical representation showing comparative populations of Winfield, Wellington and Arkansas City — Annual state agricultural reports.

Winfield ———  
 Wellington ———  
 Arkansas City ———

by our interurban line, Winfield and Arkansas City are practically one town." There has been a healthy rivalry between the two towns, the view expressed by Mr. Robinson being very largely true. Economically Sumner county is on an equal with Cowley. That there may not have been other elements which made for the development of only one town in Sumner will not be denied nor affirmed. The writer has not studied the question and does not know. The statement of Mr. Robinson is given here simply to be taken for what it is worth, but it is obvious that the personal factor has been one of the essential ones in the development. That the same factor has been vital in other towns is hardly to be doubted. It seems likely, then, that the development of one town in a county may be an inspiration to the citizens of another town to put forth special effort to bring about growth. Table V shows the comparative growth of the population of the three places.

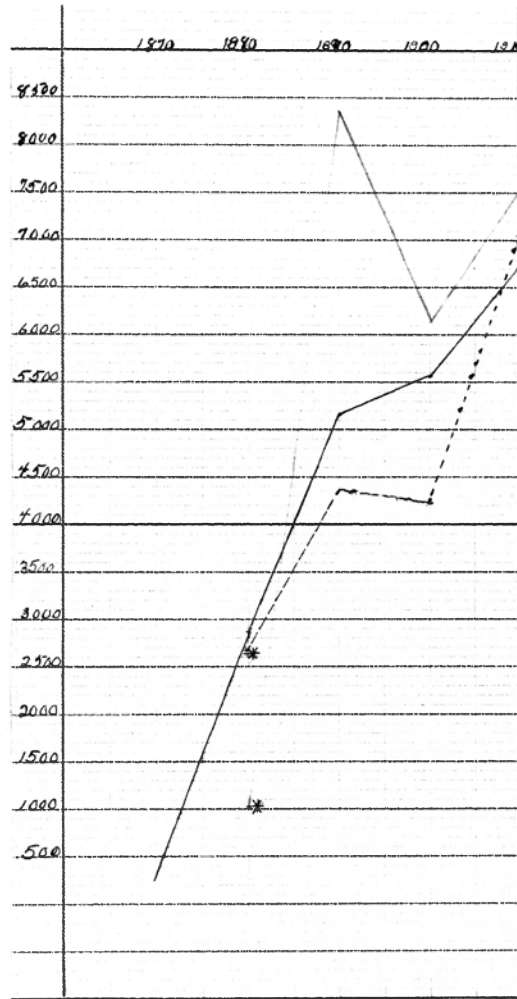
There is also to be noted in this connection a differentiation within the town. I refer to a part of the Fifth ward known as College Hill where are located Southwestern and St. John's Colleges. The influence of Southwestern has been the larger factor in

TABLE V

Showing the comparative population figures since 1894  
given by the State Agricultural Reports.

	Arkansas City	Winfield	Wellington
1894	7,120	6,115	4,652
1895	6,904	5,031	3,657
1896	5,623	4,610	3,375
1897	6,578	4,455	3,158
1898	6,940	5,957	3,637
1899	7,219	5,727	4,159
1900	7,423	6,059	4,346
1901	7,045	6,571	4,406
1902	7,058	6,690	4,322
1903	7,061	7,173	4,405
1904	7,124	7,758	4,384
1905	7,634	7,845	4,402
1906	7,991	7,849	4,560
1907	8,116	8,094	5,067
1908	6,665	5,990	5,350
1909	7,224	7,424	6,786
1910	8,342	7,475	7,315
1911	8,110	7,698	6,694
1912	7,917	7,677	6,302
1913	7,667	7,659	

# CHART III



\* First U.S. census enumeration  
of Arkansas City and  
Wellington

Graphical representation of comparative populations  
of Winfield, Wellington and Arkansas City.  
U.S. Census reports.

Winfield —————

Wellington - - - - -

Arkansas City. ————



making "the Hill a different sort of place". Here practically all the residents are Methodists and here is located the second Methodist church of the town. It became a separate organization in 1889, a few of the members of First church of the same denomination breaking away, this being the beginning of Grace Methodist church. The first services were held in the college buildings, but in a few years a separate brick structure was erected. The membership at the beginning of the present year (1914) was 565.

College Hill is the center of Methodism for the Southwest Kansas Conference. Many retired ministers find it a good place to "end their days". The college element is largely dominant even to the extent that one or both of the city councilmen are members of the faculty. To show that it is a somewhat separate community in the city an extract from a news story from one of the early 1914 issues of the Southwestern Collegian, the college paper, is quoted:- "'Watch College Hill win' was the slogan adopted by the College Hill improvement League at a meeting at Grace church Friday afternoon. The following officers were elected: Professor, president; H.H. Wilson, vice-president; Professor Ida Capen Fleming, secretary-treasurer. The committee

on organization composed of President F.E. Mossman, Professor H.L. Latham, Rev. R.L. George, Rev. T.P. Hales and J.A. Carlisle reported a constitution which was read and adopted. The purpose of the League as stated in the constitution 'is to make the college hill section more sightly and a better place to live'."

In the history of the race man first came to self consciousness through contact with his fellow human beings. In the life of the individual self consciousness is brought about by communication in one or more of its forms with another or other persons, this ordinarily taking place within the family group. Consciousness is put on a broader basis and experience is broadened through contact with a larger group than the immediate family, with playmates, the neighborhood, town group and finally the individual is brought to consciousness of himself as a part of the state, nation and even of the world. The development of the individual is part of the same process which develops the group. They are different aspects of the same thing. When these facts are understood the significance of the development of communication is obvious.

PART III

PERIOD OF CIVIC IMPROVEMENT 1903 -- 1914

## CHAPTER I

CITY PRIDE

One of the very desirable results of the local and general association is that manifested in the matter of making the city a better place in which to live. Every normal town is desirous of adding to its population. It also knows that this cannot be done faster than the birth rate exceeds the death rate unless the city is made attractive to the visitor whose neighbor or friend may be looking for a place to locate. Thus because other towns have cleaned themselves up and have made modern improvement, so must we. Each individual citizen feels that this town is his home, therefore he to a certain extent is responsible for the appearance it has.

So it is with Winfield. The period of civic improvement began about the year 1903 when there was a decided move on the part of the towns of the state and other states to make improvement. In the newspaper files there is revealed a great deal of agitation for street improvement, a sewage system and what not. It was during this year that bonds were voted as an aid to the gas company in order to secure gas

for lighting and heating purposes. The next year bonds were voted and an ordinance passed by the city council requiring thae Ninth avenue be curbed and guttered, this being the first street to receive this treatment after Main street in 1882. About this time also began the movement which had for its purpose the purchase of the water and light plant by the city. Bonds for the purchase of the light plant were issued in April 1905 and through the voice of the people it was decided that the plant should be taken over by the city. Bonds for purchasing the water plant were issued in March 1906. It may be remarked in this connection that at the time of the purchase of these plants by the city, the venture was to be an experiment, and it is to be said that the experiment has proved one of the most successful ever tried by the city. It is the sentiment of the citizens that better service is given for less money than would be possible if a private corporation were in control.

In the records of the city it is found that in January of 1904 the city engineer was instructed to draw up plans for macademizing Seventh avenue and during the summer of the same year both Seventh and Ninth avenues were macademized. Since that time a great deal of paving has been done. There are miles of good

macadam, and a great deal of brick paving. Ninth avenue has been paved with brick and work has been begun for the same on Main street. A number of alleys are also paved with brick.

Street lighting was also a factor as is shown by the fact that in May 1905 the council let the contract for the installation of arc lamps and transformers on the streets.

Winfield at this time was also becoming ashamed of her street cars which were being drawn by mules. Accordingly there was a great deal of talk about an electric line, but this was thought impossible unless besides the city lines there could be built an interurban line to Arkansas City. The plan took definite form early in 1904 when a promoter became interested but the property for which he asked for his shops was not granted by either Winfield or Arkansas City. The matter was left with nothing more definitely accomplished until in 1908 when bonds were issued and a franchise granted to the Interurban company. The first trips of the electric cars were made in June 1909.

The first sewer bonds were issued in August of 1907, \$30,000 being granted for the main, the beginning of the system. At the present time it is required of all who can to attach their premises to the

sewer because of the improvement of health conditions. Hardly a house at the present time, at least in the principal part of the city, can be found not connected with the sewer.

The spirit of improvement also took hold of individual citizens, this showing itself in the erection of residences and general improvements in living conditions. In May 1905 one of the issues of the Daily Courier contained a three column story of a typical new residence, that of Charles Wallace on Ninth avenue. A part of the heading of the article was as follows: "Existence is no effort; you press a button, and electrical and mechanical appliances do all the rest". A number of residences were being built at the same time. It was indeed a period of improvement.

The spirit of civic pride manifested itself in a marked way by the organization and activity of the Commercial Club. There had been an organization of the kind in the town previously, but it had become inactive. It was revived in 1911 and the spirit which has been manifested since that time has been remarkable in several ways. In the first place the spirit of co-operation which has developed among the club members is unusual. Private interests remain unemphasized

when they conflict with the larger interests of the group. The chief function of the club is to promote the general welfare of the town, much attention being given to securing business enterprises and the improvement of the city in general. For the past two years an annual banquet for the men of the town has been held. Speakers from other places are invited as are also local leaders. The two banquets held have been successful in bringing an interchange of ideas helpful to the city.

One of the most marked results of the spirit of co-operation on the part of the business men is the institution of a general delivery system with the merchants forming an association, the delivery of groceries and like products being a matter controlled by the association. The system has been in operation for almost two years and has proved successful in every respect. The same plan is used at the present time by a number of other cities of the state and other states.

Another manifestation of the co-operative feeling is to be noted in the story of the Winfield hospitals. In 1899 a small company of citizens combined to form the Winfield Hospital Association. The officers were J.P. Baden, F.K. Robinson, and W.H. Som-



ermier. Prominent citizens were among the list of officers and directors. In 1901 this list included besides those mentioned above, P.H. Albright, Miss Lizzie Wells, Mrs. Ed Cochran, T.F. Axtell, H.T. Trice and Mrs. A.E. Baden. They constructed a building and for a number of years a public hospital was maintained. It has since, however, become private property. The other hospital of the city, St. Mary's, is a Catholic institution.

Actual accomplishment in improvement probably reached its highest point in 1910. The Daily Courier in its Christmas edition of that year says editorially, "Here in Winfield the passing year has witnessed most substantial improvements. New Court House and jail completed; interurban and electric trolley lines have been put into operation; Richardson Hall, (the newest and largest of Southwestern College's buildings), crowns the eastern hill; a High School building, more complete and modern than any other city of Kansas can boast of, is ready for dedication; our first brick pavement is completed; and upon every avenue new and handsome homes have been erected. On Main street the stores have been modernized and beautiful fronts installed equal to those of a large city. Deposits show the city prosperous." In the beginning of the present year deposits in the five banks of the town amounted to two and one

half million dollars. As a matter of comparison it may be noted that at the same time the deposits in the banks of Arkansas City amounted to one and one half million dollars. This was a matter of much pride to one of the bankers of Winfield with whom the writer held interview. It may also be noted that the claim of the Arkansas City people is that they keep their money in circulation.

In a story of the previous year's achievements, the Daily Courier in its issue for January 1 1914 notes these changes: "the construction of a White Way on East Ninth avenue; the completion and dedication of the handsome new Presbyterian church; paving with brick of the alleys in the business section; construction of nearly a mile of brick paving and the Bliss and Loomis streets waterways; the remodeling and installation of new fronts in many business blocks; construction of the new Frisco station which is almost completed; building of many handsome, modern homes over the city; razing the unsightly wooden awnings on Main street; and the Courier's substantial addition to its plant and purchase of a rotary printing press."

The period of civic improvement is not yet

past and its termination cannot be foretold. At the present time (May 1 1914) Main street is being paved with brick. Several blocks of White Way are to be seen and more are planned for the immediate future. A part of the work for the installation of the lights on Main street has already been done. In the same issue of the Courier quoted above a list of things to be looked forward to during the year is given. It includes the following: "A \$50,000 building at the State School, )State Imbecile Asylum located north of Winfield}); oil and gas development; \$75,000 federal postoffice building; installation of a sewage disposal plant; a modern hotel; Main street paving and White Way; and a \$75,000 building for St. John's College."

## CHAPTER II

### PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL PLEASURES

Not only do the pleasures in which a community indulges reveal effectively what has been the progress and line of development, but also is there further association and therefore further development because the community does indulge in recreational and pleasurable activities.

The organization in Winfield which affords more people physical pleasure than any other is the baseball club. The Winfield Reds have been a contending baseball club of southern Kansas for a number of years. Organized in the early nineties, they have varied from an amateur team to a semi-professional club, they have afforded incentive for a large number of the young men of the town to become players, but a still broader influence is that which comes to the citizen who enjoys the game from the onlookers standpoint. Several times in the earlier years the Reds were declared champions of Kansas and the team has always had a large number of followers. The Southwestern College each year has a team which plays games from early in the spring until the close of the school year in June. St. John's College and the High School

also have baseball clubs to represent them each year and there are a number of followers among the townspeople for each of the clubs. For several summers there was a league organized among the young men employed in the town, the department stores and some of the larger industrial concerns of the city allowing their employees some time each afternoon for practice and play. Contests between Sunday School classes and others of the various organizations are not rare.

For a number of years there was a tennis club composed of the lovers and followers of this sport. At the present time there are a number of courts for play in the city kept by private parties besides those on the grounds of the High School and Southwestern and St. John's Colleges.

The Y.M.C.A., High School, and Colleges afford opportunity for participation in gymnasium work, basketball, football and track athletics, a large number of people taking part in one or more of these forms of pleasure.

The company of the Kansas National Guards affords pleasure and association to a number of young men. The gun club is a large one and men of practically

all professions are members. It is not unusual for several afternoons each week to be spent in shooting. The horseshoe club, (not officially so called, but nevertheless a club), affords amusement for a large number of the older men of the city, principally those who are retired from active labor.

There is hardly a day in the year when the weather allows that there are not men gathered near the court house pitching quoits. Shade trees make it an especially desirable place during the summer.

Winfield affords some exceptionally inviting places for picnickers and recreation seekers of all kinds. Timber creek flows through Island park with its ninety-three varieties of trees, it being one of the most beautiful in the state and the creek affords boating and swimming during the warm seasons. An amusement park on the Walnut river is a popular resort, there being excellent facilities for boating, swimming, roller skating, dancing, and often during the summer months motion pictures are shown in the open.

The theater, while it is partly an educational agency and some of the special programs will be discussed in the last chapter, is generally speaking

a place for amusement, pleasure and recreation. Often the best attended plays in Winfield are those produced by local talent, some entertainments of very high order having been given. The two motion picture theaters and the open air theater perform an important function in the amusement of a certain class of the people. The picture shows are quite largely attended during the entire year.

Within the last decade the automobile has come to form an important feature in the pleasure life of practically all classes of people. In the beginning of the present year there were 550 automobiles owned by residents of Cowley county, making one car for every group of fifty-eight people. If only the people of the towns were to be considered the number of people for each car owned would probably be lower. One of the direct influences of automobiling has been the construction of a rock road between Winfield and Arkansas City which allows a delightful drive.

A number of citizens do not spend their summers in Winfield. Each year many make their way to the mountainous regions and it is not unusual when there are Winfield colonies in some of the small cities of Colorado. Several own summer cottages in

Geuda Springs, a health resort in the Southwestern part of the county.

A number of clubs have for their purpose the association of their members. Some of these are educational in their nature and will be discussed briefly in the next chapter. There are others which are purely social in their nature. Several of these are embroidery and sewing clubs. Women bring their work to spend an afternoon of pleasure and association. There are several card clubs and dancing clubs. There is an organization of middle aged men and women. The Apollo Club is composed of those who are interested in the study of music, its history and characters. The Madrigal Club of a few years ago was composed of musicians, their principal activity being that of a chorus. There is a social club of women called the Coffee-Rep-arte Club. There are those who form the Pleasant Hour Club and the Jolly Set and a number of others known to outsiders only by initials.

The churches are a means of emotional pleasure to the people, mainly during the time when revival meetings are held. In some of the churches the old fashioned type of emotional revival persists. As a whole, however, the churches are an educational force and will be discussed later.



Court trials often afford amusement for numbers of people. Murder trials, divorce suits, and other cases of a sensational nature afford days of entertainment for a crowded court room.

The rather large number of lodges form the chief means of amusement for some of their members. Weekly meetings of several of the orders are held. A certain proportion of the members do not attend except on special occasions. Others find their principal means of association with their fellows through the lodge meetings. Twenty-one orders have chapters in the city.

The Old Soldiers' Reunion is an annual affair and it is a week which stands out as a bright light to the veterans of the War of the Rebellion. Speakers are brought in to draw outsiders to the celebration, but the times enjoyed most by those for whom the occasion exists are the hours around the camp fire where reminiscences of the "old days" are told and retold, and there is personal contact and association of veteran with veteran. It has become the custom of the drum corps composed of war veterans to march to Southwestern College one morning during the week of reunion and play for the students. It is an experience which the old men thoroughly enjoy because the students are appreciative. Memorial day celebrations also bring large

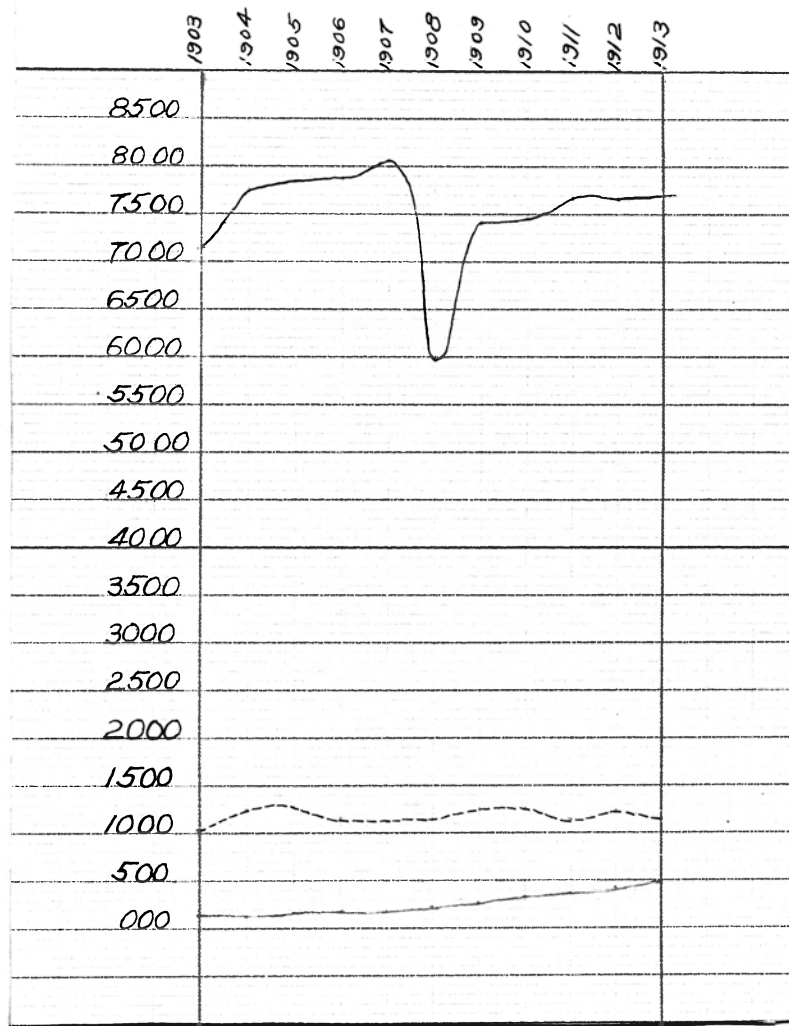
numbers of people together and they are a means of great enjoyment. Besides these there are innumerable public meetings and gatherings of various sorts. The county fair has become an annual occasion. The various commencement services of each year are important events for parents and children. These, in brief, are the social pleasures of the people of Winfield.

## CHAPTER III

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY

In recent years the educational ideals of the people have come more and more to fill a larger place in the activity of the people. The most important example which shows this to be true is the story of the schools and the progress that has been made since 1903, more especially the growth of the High School. The tables tell the story better than words. Some other interesting facts, however, are to be mentioned. It is a question whether or not there is a better average attendance in any high school according to the number enrolled than Winfield High School boasts. In the report for the third month of the school year which has just closed the percentage of attendance of those enrolled in the classes was 99.0 per cent. The average attendance in the grades is also thought to be exceptional, the percentage given in the report mentioned above being 97.5. It is to be added here that the third month was not chosen because its records showed higher averages than other months, but for the reason that it was the latest report when the writer made the investigation. This shows in a remarkable way what is felt to be the significance

# CHART IV



Graphical Representation of population in  
comparison with number students in grades and

High School

- Population
- - - - Grade Schools
- High School

of educational matters by both parents and children. When asked to give a reason for the prevailing sentiment, Professor J.L. Gowans, superintendent of the schools, said, "Spirit keeps them. I can speak best for the High School, and it is my opinion that there are not twenty-five persons of high school age in the city who are not enrolled in our classes. The boy or girl who doesn't go to high school is missing something and the spirit of the town is such that they are made to feel that they are missing an opportunity in refusing an education". The teaching force is an efficient one, all the members holding degrees or state teachers' certificates.

The new building which is used exclusively by the High School was dedicated in December 1910 and already plans are being made for a separate building for the Manual Training department because of the crowded condition.

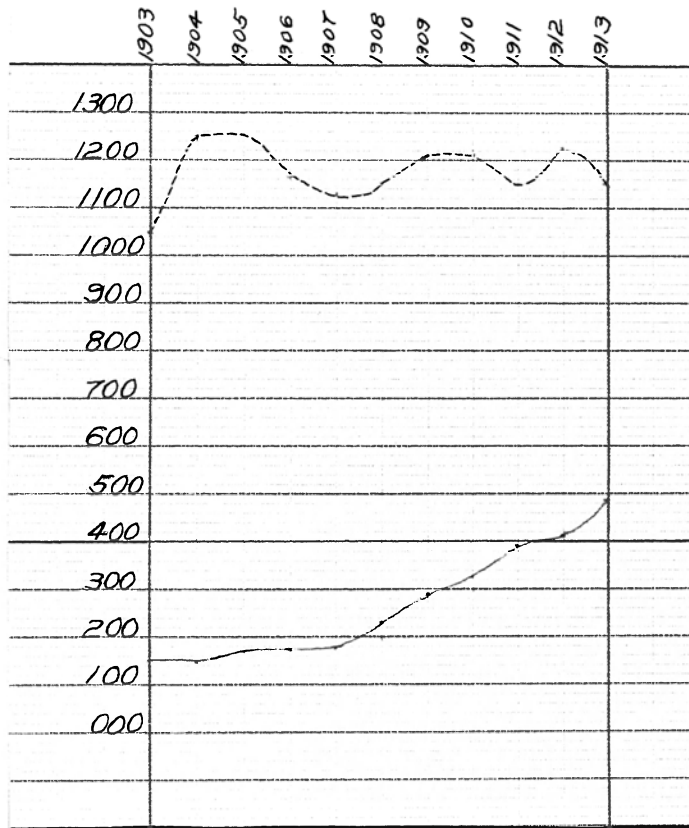
The other schools of the town are supported by the people. A large percentage of the graduates of the High School who enter college remain at home for at least two years of their college training. Business men of Winfield have given large sums of money toward the support of Southwestern College and it was a small company of local men who formed them-

TABLE VI

Showing the figures for comparison of the population of the city, number of pupils in the grade schools and High School.

	Population of city	Enrolled in grades	Enrolled in High School
1903	7,173	1,042	155
1904	7,758	1,250	146
1905	7,845	1,269	168
1906	7,849	1,164	167
1907	8,094	1,131	175
1908	5,990	1,148	230
1909	7,424	1,213	287
1910	7,475	1,217	328
1911	7,698	1,144	385
1912	7,677	1,222	407
1913	7,667	1,248	483

# CHART V



Graphic comparison of enrollment figures  
of Grade and High Schools.

----- Grade Schools  
———— High School

selves into a board of trustees and became the ruling factor in the College of Music.

Study clubs are almost as numerous as social clubs. There is a political science club among the women whose purpose it is to know more about the science of government. Clubs named, Rosetti, Sigournean, Sorosis and Entre Nous and a number of others meet regularly for study of various kinds. Classes conducted under the auspices of the Chatauqua Literary and Scientific Circle have been named. Each year through the winter from four to six of these classes meet regularly for study.

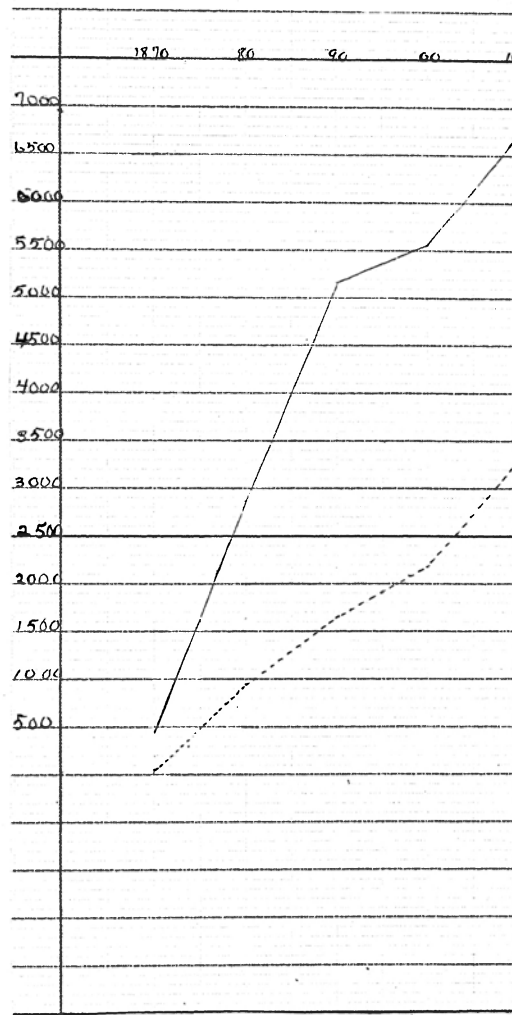
The newspapers, although primarily business enterprises, are nevertheless important educational agencies. The Daily Courier has been mentioned and quoted. The Evening Free Press evolved from the Weekly Industrial Free Press which also has been quoted. The circulation of the papers is local, most of the subscribers living within the county. In the capacity of local news and advertising media they perform their function well.

The churches have been left for discussion in this chapter because, as has previously been pointed out, as a whole the church is making for a higher and better life among the people. Emotionalism



still finds some place and the narrower, stricter views are still held to a certain extent. But the leaders are freeing themselves of this attitude. The churches of Winfield seem to be grasping the larger and more democratic view. In interviews the pastors, asked in regard to their ideas of revival meetings expressed the sentiment that the sane revival service in adding to the membership to the church, but it was the opinion that the meeting should ordinarily be held by the pastor himself rather than by a professional evangelist and that the meetings should be conducted with as little of the emotional element as possible. Revival efforts of the past winter were cited as examples. In almost every case the special meetings were conducted by the pastor and in one case the pastor was assisted by a man who had formerly been pastor of the church. One of the ministers said, "the city had this winter the sanest revival any city could have. Each church held its own meeting but they worked together in spirit and purpose". Another pastor when asked if he thought permanent good results follow the revival meeting, said, "when the services are conducted in a sane manner by a gospel preacher and thoughtfulness and reverence characterize the services, I am sure permanent results that are helpful to the church will follow". One of

# CHART VI



Graph showing the church membership of Winfield as compared to the population.

Population —

membership .....

the pastors when asked about the social life of the people of the town had this to say, "It would aid materially if we had a good dance hall and the ban was taken off of dancing. I find a great number of young people who are playing the hypocrite with themselves by being members of a church which prohibits dancing and other amusements, yet they excuse themselves by saying that personally they do not believe it harmful. The tendency is apparent."

These statements are taken from those of pastors of the leading churches and while it is to be said that some are holding onto the narrow views, one pastor making the statement, (and he seemingly thought it to the credit of his church), that the members gave more earnest consideration to the ordinances of the church than to the moral and ethical standards of living, yet the trend is undoubtedly toward the browder attitude.

Winfield has always been considered a church going town, but the reputation is hardly based on facts as will be seen by an examination of the figures in table IV. It is to be noted, however, that often children are not taken into the church under certain ages and even in the churches where this is not against the rule it is often the method of the parents to allow

TABLE VII

Name of Church	Number Members	Seating Capacity
Church of Christ (Anti-organ)	184	300
Presbyterian	500	1,100
Catholic	210	300
First Baptist	475	600
First Methodist	850	1,350
Christian (Disciple)	380	800
Methodist (Colored)	46	150
Baptist (Colored)	40	250
United Brethren	81	225
Free Methodist	21	250
Lutheran	250	500
Episcopal	110	225
Grace Methodist	565	750

Figures were compiled in December 1913

the child to reach the age when he will be able to make a choice as to church membership. The population figures include all the people. It is also to be said that the figures are taken without including the Y.M. C.A. with its membership of more than three hundred, the Christian Science which is a comparatively small organization, and those who attend Sunday School and occasional other services conducted mainly by the members of some of the other churches. Another fact to be noted is that the seating capacity of the various church buildings as given by the pastors exactly equals the population of the town as given by the U.S. census report.

The Sunday School is an educational agency not to be disregarded. Hundreds of people of all ages and classes come together for an hour of class work each week.

On January 1 1913 an important educational institution was added when the Carnegie Public Library was opened for use. The Library makes it possible for a very large number of people to read literature which it would be impossible for them to buy and this in turn makes for a more highly intelligent class of citizens.

The Chataqua Assembly which has a meeting lasting for ten days each year during the summer is one

of the very great educational institutions. It, however, has been quite thoroughly discussed. Besides this there is a winter lecture course conducted by the Men's Brotherhood organization of the First Methodist church which is very largely attended by the people of the town.

During the past two years an orchestra composed largely of students of the town and conducted by one of the members of the faculty of the College of Music, has given a series of educational musical concerts. Winfield has the reputation of being somewhat of a musical center, and a great deal of publicity has been given to these feature educational concerts. They have usually been given in the auditorium of the High School building, which has become more or less of a community meeting place. At the concerts the masterpiece selections which are rendered are explained quite at length. The program lacks entirely the popular tone and the attendance has steadily increased.

Thus, in a measure, is shown the importance given to education in Winfield, to the mind of the writer, the most important influence working in the population.

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